

Meeting Minutes Agricultural Commission  
Weare New Hampshire  
March 5, 2009

**Final Version**

**Present:** Mr. Luke Drake, chairman, Mr. George Malette, vice chairman and Mr. Paul Gannon, secretary.

**Absent:** Paul Bessey, Robert Pare, David Trumble and Ian Mc Sweeney

The session began with a motion by the vice chairman to accept as final the meeting minutes from the prior quorum. This motioned was seconded by the Chairman Drake and supported by the secretary. The motion was unanimous and the minutes accepted.

The chairman informed us that he had contacted the town to get a preliminary idea of the effort needed to identify properties in Weare active in agricultural activities. The town relayed that it could not identify an agriculturally active property type specifically but could offer general information typical of property engaged in agricultural activities. Information available from the town would include properties in current use, properties that have forest management plans on file and properties identified as business locations.

The chairman also spoke with the town regarding posting commission information on the town's web site. Among the commissioners, discussion then turned to the format of the commission's web page. Preliminary points such as the development of a narrow commission specific purpose to be posted, links to relevant laws and regulations and town outreach information. The discussion was broad in nature with no definable ends agreed upon.

The discussion shifted to the identification and action item assignment for short term goals for the commission to consider. The commission deemed it important to begin work on the classification of soils significant to agriculture in Weare. Jointly with that effort, it was deemed appropriate to attempt the identification and listing of all properties in Weare that are currently utilized for some sort of agricultural activity. The commission also agreed to attempt to recruit individuals interested in participation to help create the above mentioned list.

Documentation was submitted to post commission news and requests for information regarding agricultural properties of the town. The venue for this is the Wear cable television channel.

The topic the Center Woods garden project was addressed. A faculty member at the school is taking the lead gathering support among families and faculty to aid in the project. The commission has contacted her and has offered appropriate help in the area of planning and support coordination. The commission will develop a general plan concerning layout and plant selection for the garden. The commission will also contact school administration to coordinate summer time support if possible. Local vendors were identified as possible contributors to the project.

Very general broad topic discussions regarding medium and long term commission goals, better understanding agricultural zoning and its impact on “farm friendly” policies etc.

Action items by member

Chairman

- Preliminary web page format

- Contact Center Woods Administration regarding garden project

- Establish garden project contact list (?)

Vice Chairman

- School garden schedule and layout

- RSA book

Secretary

- Establish relationship with planning board conservation easement subcommittee.

Paul V. Gannon

Secretary

Weare Agricultural Commission